

Application Serial No. 09/938,072  
Amendment dated October 27, 2003  
Reply to Office Action dated July 3, 2003

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a method for ceramizing starting glass of glass-ceramics into glass-ceramics, comprising at least the following steps: ~~1.1~~ the starting glass is heated from an initial temperature  $T_1$  to a temperature  $T_2$  which is disposed above the glass transformation temperature  $T_G$  at which crystallization nuclei are precipitated; ~~1.2~~ the glass is held at the temperature  $T_2$  for a period  $t_2$  for the precipitation of crystallization nuclei; ~~1.3~~ the glass is further heated to a temperature  $T_3$  at which a crystal phase grows on the nuclei formed following ~~step 1.1 and 1.2~~ the preceding steps; ~~1.4~~ the glass is held for a period  $t_3$  at a temperature  $T_3$  or heated during this period to a higher temperature  $T_4$  until the predetermined properties of the glass-ceramics have been reached; and ~~1.5~~ the control of the temperature curve is performed with the help of a control loop comprising at least one temperature sensor for sensing the temperature and a heating unit as an actuator. The invention is characterized in that ~~1.6~~ the heating unit comprises IR radiators for heating the glass to be relaxed with a thermal dead time of less than 10 secs., especially  $<5$  secs.